

## Message Text

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PAGE 01    SECTO 05011 060524Z  
ACTION SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EUR-12 CCO-00 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00  
SP-02 PM-05 INR-10 INRE-00 EB-08 /063 W  
-----033150 060528Z /10/43

O 051818Z MAY 78 ZFF6  
FM USDEL SECRETARY IN MEXICO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE  
INFO AMEMBASSY HELSINKI IMMEDIATE  
USINT HAVANA IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY CARACAS IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTO 05011

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TAGS LINE ADDED)

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS)  
SUBJECT: HIGHLIGHTS OF MAY 4 VANCE-ROEL CONVERSATIONS

1. AT ROEL'S REQUEST IN VIEW OF FORTHCOMING MEXICAN VISIT TO SOVIET UNION, CONVERSATION FOCUSED PRIMARILY ON WORLD ISSUES, PARTICULARLY THOSE WITH WHICH SOVIET UNION IS INVOLVED. CONVERSATION CONSISTED LARGELY OF PRESENTATION BY VANCE OF U.S. POSITIONS ON SALT, SOVIET-CUBAN ACTIONS IN AFRICA, PREPARATIONS FOR SPECIAL SESSION ON DISARMAMENT, "NEUTRON BOMB", CHINA, KOREA, VIETNAM, U.S. ARMS PACKAGE TO MIDDLE EAST, AND NAMIBIA.
  2. ISSUES OF SPECIAL INTEREST TO LATIN AMERICA WERE CONVENTIONAL ARMS RESTRAINTS IN LATIN AMERICA AND OAS (SEPTELS) CUBA AND TLATELOLCO.
  3. ON CUBA, ROEL EXPRESSED BELIEF THAT CUBAN ACTION IN AFRICA IS PRIMARILY "BLOOD PAYMENT" TO SOVIETS FOR MASSIVE ASSISTANCE. CUBANS ARE ALSO GETTING BENEFIT OF TRAINING FOR THEIR TROOPS IN ACTUAL COMBAT SITUATION. HE THOUGHT CUBAN ACTION BASED ONLY SLIGHTLY ON DESIRE TO
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PAGE 02    SECTO 05011 060524Z

PLAY LEADERSHIP ROLE IN THIRD WORLD OR TO FOSTER WORLD REVOLUTION. ROEL SAID IF U.S. WOULD LIFT BLOCKADE, IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE RESOLVE OTHER ISSUES WITH CUBANS SINCE CASTRO IS CLEARLY INTERESTED IN IMPROVING RELATIONS WITH U.S. SECRETARY VANCE SAID ONE OF HIS FIRST STATEMENTS AT THE BEGINNING OF THIS ADMINISTRATION WAS TO FAVOR NORMALIZATION WITH CUBA. U.S. TOOK NUMBER OF GENERAL

STEPS IN THIS DIRECTION. HOWEVER, CUBA DID NOT RESPOND SATISFACTORILY AND WE COULD NOT AFFORD TO GIVE AWAY OUR MAJOR BARGAININGCHIP FOR NOTHING FROM CUBA. ROEL SAID HE UNDERSTOOD U.S. POSITION AND WOULD BE GLAD TO BE OF ANY HELP HE COULD.

4. TLATELOLCO TREATY. BOTH SECRETARY VANCE AND FOREIGN SECRETARY ROEL AGREED THAT SOVIET ANNOUNCEMENT OF INTENTION TO ACCEDE TO TLATELOLCO IS MOST FAVORABLE DEVELOPMENT. NOW THAT FRANCE HAS AGREED TO MAKE SIMILAR ANNOUNCEMENT PROBABLY DURING SPECIAL SESSION ON DISARMAMENT, CUBA REMAINS THE ONLY COUNTRY NOT TO HAVE SIGNED. ROEL AGREED TO DISCUSS THIS ISSUE FURTHER WITH CUBANS. VANCE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** SECTO, INTERVENTION, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, MEETING REPORTS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978SECTO05011  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**SAS ID:** 2776827  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** HIGHLIGHTS OF MAY 4 VANCE-ROEL CONVERSATIONS  
**TAGS:** OVIP, PDEV, PEPR, US, MX, UR, XX, (VANCE, CYRUS R), (VANCE, CYRUS), (ROEL GARCIA, SANTIAGO)  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014